REMARKS

Claims 1-11 are pending. Claims 1, 4, and 8 have been amended. The amendments find support in the specification, page 10, lines 1-17; page 18, lines 7-9; and FIG. 3A, for example. There are no issues of new matter.

Claims 1-11 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bezos (EP 0 927 945) in view of Lindquist (US 6,931,419). Applicants traverse the rejection.

Claim 1 as amended recites a system for managing address data comprising a combination of elements. The combination includes an address data storing unit which stores destination address data of candidates for a recipient of merchandise and candidates for a payer of merchandise. The destination address data is categorized based on orderers' groups. For each orderers' group, the destination address data stores selectable pairings of a recipient candidate to a payer candidate.

Applicants' claimed subject matter addresses a problem with managing address data, particularly in large organizations, where a merchandise orderer can have difficulty identifying the merchandise recipient and the merchandise payer. Accordingly, Applicants have developed a system which stores data that includes pairings of recipients to payers according to the group that the orderer belongs to. As such, the orderer can efficiently select the recipient and payer.

In contrast, neither Bezos nor Lindquist discloses or suggests Applicants' combination of elements including the claimed address data storing unit which stores pairings of a recipient candidate to a payer candidate, from which the orderer selects. Bezos and Lindquist merely disclose billing the merchandise orderer as the payer. See Bezos, ¶ [0027], and Lindquist, 11:17-20. As such, their combination fails to disclose or suggest Applicants' combination of elements. Therefore, claim 1 and its dependent claims 2 and 3 are patentable over Bezos in view of Lindquist.

The same logic applies to claims 4 and 8 and their respective dependent claims. Therefore, claim 4 and its dependent claims 5-7 and claim 8 and its dependent claims 9-11 are patentable over Bezos in view of Lindquist.
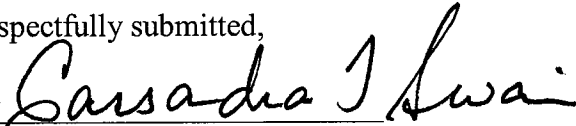
In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket no. **116692004400**.

Dated: May 28, 2008   Respectfully submitted,

By _____

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